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PRESS RELEASE

June 28, 2006

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Governor Appoints Two New Utility Consumer Advocates

Salt Lake City, UT — Governor Huntsman, with the consent of the Senate, has appointed Robert McMullin and Andrew Riggle to serve on the Committee of Consumer Services. Their four-year terms begin July 1, 2006.

In 1977, the Utah Legislature passed a law creating the six-member Committee. The Committee's statutory responsibility is to represent the interests of small business owners, farmers and ranchers, and residential consumers of natural gas, electric, and telephone utilities in Utah.

Robert McMullin, who replaced Kent Bateman, will represent the interests of farmers or ranchers who use electric power to pump water in farming or ranching operations. He has served as chairman on several community boards and presently serves on the Utah Tart Cherry Market board, Strawberry Water Users Association board, and Utah Horticulture Society board. He is the president of McMullin Orchards, Inc., in Salem, Utah.

Andrew Riggle, who replaced Ryan Atkinson, will represent the interests of low-income residence. He is currently employed by the Utah Developmental Disabilities Council and serves as the Coordinator for the Disability Community Alliance. Among his many accomplishments, he has researched and drafted position papers on low-income issues, coordinated the Family Investment Coalition's statewide effort, and has raised public awareness of both state and federal issues.

"Both of these new members bring to the Committee extensive experience and valuable knowledge," said Committee Chair Dee Jay Hammon. "On behalf of the Committee of Consumer Services and Utah ratepayers, I congratulate and welcome the Governor's new appointees and extend appreciation to the members whose terms have expired."

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